

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 01686 070510Z
ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

FOR EA HOLBROOKE; PLEASE PASS TO WHITE HOUSE

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, CHIP), AS
SUBJECT: GOA INVITATION TO CHIP CARTER

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN
MINISTER PEACOCK CONCERNING GOA'S INVITATION TO CHIP
AND CARON CARTER AS THE OFFICIAL GUESTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT FOR AUSTRALIA/AMERICA WEEK:

"DEAR PHILIP,

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 24 FEBRUARY CONFIRMING
THAT CHIP AND CARON CARTER WILL BE ABLE TO COME HERE FOR
AUSTRALIAN-AMERICAN WEEK. I AM VERY PLEASED THAT THEY
WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT AUSTRALIA AND LOOK FORWARD TO
RECEIVING YOUR ADVICE REGARDING THE DATES IN DUE COURSE.

"I AGREE THAT THE CARTERS' ACCEPTANCE OF
THE AUSTRALIAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION'S INVITATION IS LIKELY
TO BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE QUICKLY BUT THAT A FORMAL
ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE DELAYED UNTIL THREE OR FOUR
WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT.

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"AS I AM SURE WILL APPRECIATE, THERE MAY WELL BE
ENQUIRIES FROM THE MEDIA BOTH HERE AND IN WASHINGTON
BEFORE THE FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT. I HAVE THEREFORE ASKED
THAT MY DEPARTMENT MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH OFFICERS
OF YOUR EMBASSY TO COORDINATE AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE
SHOULD IT BE REQUIRED.

"AS YOU WILL RECALL FROM YOUR DISCUSSION WITH MR. PARKINSON ON 14 JANUARY, IT IS A STANDING PRACTICE THAT THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES FOR AUSTRALIA-AMERICA WEEK BE ACCORDED GUEST OF GOVERNMENT STATUS DURING THE PERIOD OF THE VISIT. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD ARRANGE TO CONFIRM THIS TO CHIP AND CARON CARTER.

"UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT IT IS NORMAL FOR THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO MEET THE COST OF AND MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNAL TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION WITHIN AUSTRALIA. THE USUAL LENGTH OF SUCH VISITS IS TWELVE DAYS AND I WOULD HOPE THAT THE CARTERS COULD SPEND SUFFICIENT TIME IN AUSTRALIA TO VISIT A NUMBER OF CAPITAL CITIES OTHER THAN SYDNEY.

"YOURS SINCERELY, (SIGNE) ANDREW PEACOCK."
ALSTON

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